

Thirtieth Ordinary Sunday 25 October 2020



Sunday Matins (Morning Prayer)

Gathering in God's Name

Prelude: Melody in G major, Opus 46 no 4, Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)

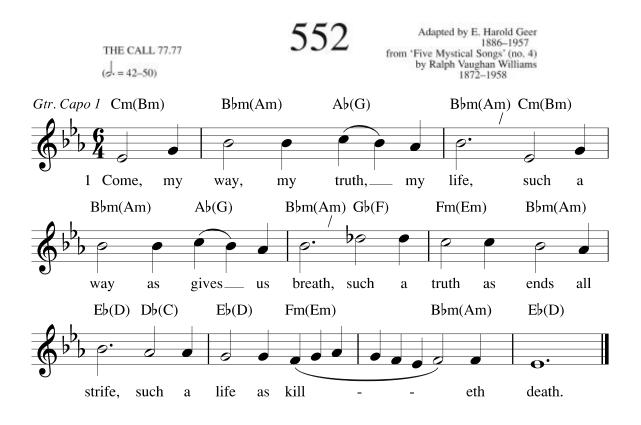
Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. *Matthew 22.37–40*

Open our lips, O Lord, and we shall declare your praise.

This is the day that the Lord has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it.





- Come, my way, my truth, my life, such a way as gives us breath, such a truth as ends all strife, such a life as killeth death.
- Come, my light, my feast, my strength, such a light as shows a feast, such a feast as mends in length, such a strength as makes his guest.
- 3. Come, my joy, my love, my heart, such a joy as none can move, such a love as none can part, such a heart as joys in love.

George Herbert 1593–1633 Music © 1911 Stainer & Bell, London, England Reproduced with permission Friends in Christ, we come together to meet with God, and to take our part in the building up of his Church. We will lift up our hearts in thanks and praise, hear from God's holy word, and pray for this world, and for ourselves. The Bible tells us to approach God confidently, through our Lord Jesus Christ. As we do so, we must confess our sins, seeking forgiveness through God's boundless goodness and mercy.

So let us draw near to God with sincerity and confidence, and pray together,

God of all mercy, we humbly admit that we need your help. We have wandered from your way. We have sinned in thought, word and deed, and have failed to do what is right. You alone can save us. Have mercy on us, wipe out our sins and teach us to forgive others. Bring forth in us the fruit of your Spirit that we may live the new life to your glory. This we ask in the name of Jesus our Saviour. Amen.

God desires that none should perish, but that all should turn to Christ, and live. In response to his call we acknowledge our sins. God pardons those who humbly repent, and truly believe the gospel. Therefore we have peace with God, through Jesus Christ. **Amen.** Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:38-39

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His steadfast love endures for ever!

Grace and peace be with you and also with you.

The Ministry of the Word

A reading from the First Epistle to the Thessalonians, 2: 1-13.

Paul's Ministry in Thessalonica

You know, brothers and sisters, that our visit to you was not without results. We had previously suffered and been treated outrageously in Philippi, as you know, but with the help of our God we dared to tell you his gospel in the face of strong opposition. For the appeal we make does not spring from error or impure motives, nor are we trying to trick you. On the contrary, we speak as those approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please people but God, who tests our hearts. You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed—God is our witness. We were not looking for praise from people, not from you or anyone else, even though as apostles of Christ we could have asserted our authority. Instead, we were like young children among you.

Just as a nursing mother cares for her children, so we cared for you. Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well. Surely you remember, brothers and sisters, our toil and hardship; we worked night and day in order not to be a burden to anyone while we preached the gospel of God to you. You are witnesses, and so is God, of how holy, righteous and blameless we were among you who believed. For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory.

And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us,

you accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is indeed at work in you who believe.

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17

A prayer of Moses, man of God. You have been our haven, Lord, from generation to generation. Before the mountains existed, before the earth was born, from age to age you are God.

You return us to dust, children of the earth back to earth. For in your eyes a thousand years are like a single day: they pass with the swiftness of sleep.

You sweep away the years as sleep passes at dawn, like grass that springs up in the day, and is withered by evening. How long O Lord, before you return? Pity your servants, shine your love on us each dawn, and gladden all our days.

Balance our past sorrows and present joys and let your servants, young and old, see the splendor of your work.

Let your loveliness shine on us, and bless the work we do, bless the work of our hands.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 22: 34-46

The Greatest Commandment

Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

Whose Son Is the Messiah?

While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, "What do you think about the Messiah? Whose son is he?"

"The son of David," they replied.

He said to them, "How is it then that David, speaking by the Spirit, calls him 'Lord'? For he says,

"The Lord said to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand until I put your enemies under your feet."

If then David calls him 'Lord,' how can he be his son?" No one could say a word in reply, and from that day on no one dared to ask him any more questions.

This is the Gospel of the Lord **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah)

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel:

who has come to his people and set them free.

The Lord has raised up for us a mighty Saviour: born of the house of his servant David.

Through the holy prophets, God promised of old: to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us,

To show mercy to our forebears: and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear:

holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High: for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

To give his people knowledge of salvation: by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God: the dawn from on high shall break upon us, To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death: and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory to God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit: as in the beginning, so now, and for ever. Amen.

Sermon Rev Prof Robert Gribben AM

The Apostles' Creed

Let us affirm the faith of the Church.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Ministry Of Prayer

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us join together in the prayer which Jesus gave us.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sin as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are

yours now and for ever. Amen.

Be exalted, Lord, above the heavens, let your glory cover the earth. Keep our nation under your care,

and guide us in justice and truth. Let your way be known on earth, your saving power among all nations. Send out your light and your truth, that we may tell of your saving works. Have mercy on the poor and oppressed. Hear the cry of those in need. Hear our prayers, O Lord, for we put our trust in you.

The Collect of the Day

O God,

whose Son has taught us that love is the fulfilment of your law:

stir up within us the fire of your Holy Spirit, and pour into our hearts your greatest gift of love, so that we may love you with our whole being, and our neighbours as ourselves; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever. Amen. Amen.

Intercessions are led for the world and the church, to which response to each petition may be:

Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

The intercessions conclude with:

Lord, you have given us grace to agree in these our prayers, and you have promised that when two or three gather in your name you will grant their requests. Fulfil now, Lord, our desires and prayers as may be best for us. Grant us, in this life, knowledge of your truth and in the age to come, life eternal. **Amen.**

The sending out of God's People

Anthem: On thee each living soul awaits, The Creation, Joseph Haydn (1732-1809). Duet with Christine and Elsdon Storey.

Eternal God and Father, by whose power we are created, and by whose love we are redeemed: Guide and strengthen us by your Spirit, that we may give ourselves to your service, and live this day in love to one another and to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We conclude this time of prayer together with the words of the Grace:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all. Amen.

Postlude, Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)

Acknowledgements:

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PLEASE REPORT ABUSE CALL 1800 135 246

MISSION AND VISION STATEMENT

St Mary's Anglican Church, North Melbourne is an inner-city Christian community that strives to be faithful, inclusive and sacramental.

God inspires us to worship in daily celebration; to be caring, thoughtful and inviting.

In response to God's call, in the next three to five years we aim:

- To grow substantially in faith and numbers
- To create an inter-generational culture that values all age groups children and adults equally
- To express our faith in active engagement within and beyond our own community
- To deploy our property and financial assets in strategic support of the ministry needs of the parish for the long term
- To become more open to change as we learn to grow

